

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 253191

60

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /080 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT-AF/S:RPERRY:EK

APPROVED BY IO:JABAKER

AF/S:RTHAVERKAMP

----- 113134

P R 240046Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 253191

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PINS, BC, RH

SUBJECT:RHODESIAN BORDER INCIDENT

REF: GABORONE 1428

THERE FOLLOWS STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO PRESS RELEASE
ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA ON OCTOBER 20 (REFTEL).
DELEGATION SHOULD EITHER SEND TEXT IN FORM OF LETTER TO
CHAIRMAN OF FOURTH COMMITTEE FOR SUBSEQUENT ISSUANCE AS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 253191

UN DOCUMENT OR MAKE STATEMENT IN FOURTH COMMITTEE FOR

SUBSEQUENT ISSU ANCE AS USUN PRESS RELEASE. IN EITHER
CASE YOU SHOULD INSURE THAT BOTSWANA MISSION IS GIVEN
COURTESY COPY OF STATEMENT.

BEGIN TEXT

"I HAVE NOTED THE COMMUNIQUE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA CONCERNING THE INCIDENT ON THE
BOTSWANA-RHODESIA BORDER ON OCTOBER 19 IN WHICH A GROUP
OF RHODESIAN SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY OPENED FIRE ON THE
BOTSWANAN VILLAGE OF MATSILOJE. ACCORDING TO BOTSWANAN
AUTHORITIES, THE VILLAGERS FLED AND RELATED THE INCIDENT
TO THE NEAREST POLICE AUTHORITIES IN FRANCISTOWN, 56 KMS

TO THE WEST. A BOTSWANAN PRESS RELEASE DESCRIBED THIS AS
ONE OF SEVERAL BORDER INCIDENTS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

"I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONDEMN
SUCH AGGRESSIVE ACTS BY THE SECURITY FORCES OF THE ILLE-
GAL RHODESIAN REGIME AGAINST INNOCENT PEOPLE IN A NEIGH-
BORING LAND. SUCH ACTS COULD JEOPARDIZE THE EFFORTS OF
SOUTHERN RHODESIA'S NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING SIR SERETSE
KHAMA, PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA, TO HELP FIND A PEACEFUL
SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF MAJORITY RULE AND CASTS
DOUBT ON THE SINCERITY OF THE INTENTIONS OF THE RHODESIAN
REGIME TO NEGOTIATE HONESTLY WITH THE NATIONALIST GROUPS.

"THE COMMUNIQUE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF
BOTSWANA ALSO SAID THAT TWO AMERICANS WERE ARRESTED FOR
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS WHILE IN BOTSWANA ON A
MISSION FOR THE RHODESIAN SPECIAL BRANCH. WE ARE AWARE
THAT TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE BEEN TRIED AND CONVICTED
BY THE BOTSWANAN COURTS FOR BEING IN ILLEGAL POSSESSION
OF FIREARMS.

"I WANT TO REITERATE THE STATEMENT MADE ON OCTOBER 9
IN THE FOURTH COMMITTEE BY US DELEGATE CONGRESSMAN DONALD
FRASER CONCERNING US POLICY REGARDING ITS CITIZENS WHO
MAY FIGHT AS MERCENARIES FOR THE SOUTHERN RHODESIANS. MY
GOVERNMENT DOES NOT APPROVE OF SERVICE BY ANY AMERICAN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 253191

CITIZEN IN THE FORCES OF THE RHODESIAN REGIME. OUR
LAWS PROVIDE THAT ANY AMERICAN CITIZEN ENLISTING IN THE
ARMED FORCES OF ANOTHER COUNTRY RUNS THE RISK OF LOSING
HIS US CITIZENSHIP, AS WELL AS BEING LIABLE TO CRIMINAL
PROSECUTION. WE REMAIN ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO US CITIZENS
SERVING IN THE FORCES OF THE ILLEGAL RHODESIAN REGIME."
END TEXT

INGERSOLL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, BORDER INCIDENTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE253191
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/S:RPERRY:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750369-0577
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751023/aaaaautx.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GABORONE 1428
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HODESIAN BORDER INCIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BC, RH, US
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006